



WEEKLY GOSPEL REFLECTION



THE SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY, CYCLE A

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God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. John 3:16

This Sunday we celebrate the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity. The Catechism of the Catholic Church in paragraph 221 states that St. John affirms "God is love" – The pure essence of God in Three Persons is love. Not mere mortal love but the love that transcends all things. God's love, as expressed in the Sacred Heart of Jesus, is bountiful, unending mercy. God's love is pure love, mercy and charity. *"By sending his only Son and the Spirit of Love in the fullness of time, God has revealed his innermost secret: God himself is an eternal exchange of love, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and he has destined us to share in that exchange."* Ccc 221

This scripture passage from the Gospel of John has become the favorite of many Christians. It is not difficult to understand why. John 3:16 is a succinct and memorable summary of God's initiative in our behalf. One timeless commentary on this text is worth quoting. from a book called "*Leaves of Gold*" (Clyde Lytle; The Coslett Publishing Company, 1965)

John 3:16

God – the Greatest lover

So loved – in the greatest degree

The world – the greatest companions for the Trinity

That He gave – the greatest act in all of history

His only begotten Son – the greatest gift

That whosoever – the greatest opportunity

Believeth – the greatest simplicity

In Him – the greatest affection

Should not perish – the greatest promise

But – the greatest difference

Have – the greatest certainty

Eternal Life – the greatest joy

Reflect through the inspiration of Lectio Divina with a heart yearning for consolation, on the boundless love of the Trinity. Three Persons whose love for each other was so profoundly eternal, in a mystical kiss poured out that love in what Church theologians call "*Economic Trinity*." This love poured out brought about the creation of the cosmos. The cosmos was created for a single purpose – to serve as a "*womb*" for the creation of you and me, and all persons created across the span of time in God's image and likeness. *"We know that all creation is groaning in labor pains even until now; and not only that, but we ourselves who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, we also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies."* Romans 8:22-23

*O most Holy Trinity, Undivided Unity;
Holy God, Mighty God, God Immortal, be adored.*

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him might not perish
but might have eternal life.

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world,
but that the world might be saved through him.

Whoever believes in him will not be condemned,
but whoever does not believe has already been condemned,
because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

The Gospel of the Lord

